

RUBBER HISTORY.

Man That Came With Columbus Saw
Haitians Plaster Ball.

"The world was a long time learning the uses and value of rubber," says H. E. Armstrong in Ainslee's. "For two centuries after the Spaniards saw the gum in the hands of natives of the new world it was little more than a curiosity. Old Herrera, who went with Columbus on his second voyage, made a note of an elastic ball which was molded from the gum of a tree. At their games the nude Haitians made it bound high in the air. The Aztecs were familiar with the gum and called it *ule*, and from them the Spaniards learned to smear it on their coats to keep out the wet. They had crossed the seas for gold and never dreamed of a time when the sticky milk the uncouth Indians drew from strange trees would be worth more than the treasure of the hills.

"Jose, king of Portugal, in 1555, comes down to us as the wearer of a pair of boots sent out to Para to be covered with a waterproof gum. Yet 300 years were to elapse before a Connecticut Yankee should make a pair of boots of rubber which would not decompose. Dr. Priestly, author of a work on 'Perspective,' now forgotten, recorded that caoutchouc (pronounced kachook) was useful in small cubes for rubbing out pencil marks; hence the name rubber. The India linked with it refers to the savages who gathered it in the Amazon wilderness. Dr. Priestly's cubes were half an inch long and sold for 3 shillings, or 75 cents, apiece—a stiff price for the finest rubber today is \$1 a pound. Its price for ten years has ranged from 62 cents to \$1.00.

"The conversion of the gum to useful purposes made but slow headway. The first waterproof cloth in 1797 was the work of an Englishman. It was tentative, and, of course, it would not stand heat. In 1823 Charles Mackintosh of Glasgow discovered naphtha and, dissolving rubber in it, produced a varnish which, when spread on cloth, made it really impervious to water. Most of the rubber used in the world still comes from equatorial South America, and the forests where the Indians gathered *ule* are as dense today and almost as little known to white men as in the time of Cortes."

Why They Were Selected.

It has been recorded that General Henry Knox, in 1783, was the "greatest" of 11 distinguished officers of the army, weighing 280 pounds. Noah Brooks, in his book entitled "Henry Knox," gives the following incident relating to the general's full habit:

With a Captain Sargent, he was selected to present the hard case of the starving and naked men at Valley Forge to the attention of a committee of congress. One of the congressmen, wishing to show his wit and sarcasm, said that he had never seen a fatter man than General Knox nor a better dressed man than his associate.

Knox managed to keep his temper and remained silent, but his subordinate retorted, "The corps, out of respect to congress and themselves, have sent as their representatives the only man who had an ounce of superfluous flesh on his body and the only other man who possessed a complete suit of clothes."

Our System of Notation.

Some system of notation has been used since time out of memory. The first record we have of it is of figures written with a stick on a flat surface covered with sand. Before that all calculations were made with pebbles, beans and the like. Even now the Chinese do their calculating with little stones or beads strung on wires, in a frame. The Romans first used vertical lines—I, II, III, etc.—to express numbers. The Arabic figures, which we commonly use at the present time, are of much earlier date.

The Arabic system is chiefly valuable on account of the great convenience it affords by giving a figure a value according to the place it occupies in the line. By this system the most enormous sums can be expressed by the ten little characters which form the numerical alphabet.

Metaphor.

The Minneapolis (Kan.) Messenger says: "We once heard Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt eulogize Mrs. Stanton, Harriet Beecher Stowe and Susan B. Anthony as follows: 'These are the women who laid themselves down in the dust, as it were, to form a bridge over which you and I might go dry shod.'"

"Once we heard the president of Brown university describe the old character *Jack* first as a safety valve, then as a hearthstone, and at last he made a lightning change and brought out the old tree as the rudder to the ship of state. That beat anything we ever heard and the greater surprise, too, coming as it did from such a profound scholar."

Cheating the Cat.

The meanest man is around town in many guises and in considerable numbers, but the meanest woman is a recent discovery. She lives in Philadelphia, and for the sake of saving a cent a day she cheats the cat by giving her each morning a saucerful of milk, and after about two teaspoonfuls of it have been lipped up she dilutes the milk with water and continues to do so till evening. When remonstrated with by her husband recently she said, "Well, the cat doesn't know the difference. It looks like milk, anyhow, and if I didn't thin it out for her we'd have to have 2 cents' worth for breakfast each day."—Philadelphia Record.

An Acquired Taste.

"Yes, there is something in a name. There's my wife, for instance." "What about her?" "Why, her first name is Olive, and I didn't like her at all at first."

How a Blind Man Can Tell Time.

Perhaps many people have noticed that the blind men who pass the blind even may hear day at Grand avenue bridge.

watch and can tell time too. Yesterday a man dropped a nickel in his cup and, noticing the watch, asked him for the time. It was a queer question to ask, but he saw the watch and wanted to know whether the blind man was simply pretending to be sightless.

"I think I can tell," said the blind man. He held it up close to his ear and slowly turned the stem winder.

"One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight," he counted, and then he said: "That means seventy-two minutes. I wound up the watch, tightly at 3 o'clock, and so the time ought to be about twelve minutes past 4. Here, look and see how near I came to it."

His questioner looked, and the time was 4:18. He was only six minutes off.

"Do you mean to say that you can tell the time of day by winding up your watch?"

"Not exactly, but I can come mighty near it, usually within ten minutes, and it's very easy too. All you have to know is how one long click in winding up will run the watch. I'll explain. Suppose that at 3 o'clock I wind up my watch until it is tight, as we say—that is, until another turn of the winder would apparently break a spring. At 5 o'clock I wind the watch again and find that the winder clicks twelve times before the watch is wound up to the place where it sticks. Then I know that twelve clicks will run the watch 120 minutes and that one click represents ten minutes of time."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

the worst after effects of influenza arise from deranged functions of the liver. Clear the blood at once with *terbine*, for it will strengthen the liver to withdraw from circulation the bilious poisons. Price 50 cents. Anti-Monopoly Drug Store.

Awnings in Big Lots.

"To supply some of the big modern buildings with awnings," said an awning maker, "costs as much as it would to build a moderate sized house."

"Not all of the great buildings require awnings. Some of the very largest have their principal exposure in such a direction that they are not needed, the sun not shining on these windows during the hours the offices are occupied. And then, of course, there are great buildings that do not require awnings on some sides, but need them on others or in courts, and so on."

"Here, for instance, is a building with about 1,000 windows, of which 600 or thereabout are supplied with awnings."

"Another building I have in mind has about 1,000 windows. I don't know how many awnings they have there, but if it is supplied in the same proportion as the other that would give it about 1,000 awnings. I dare say that, in fact, you would find in the city single buildings with more than a thousand awnings."

"You see, just the awnings for some of these great modern buildings amount to quite an item."—Anti-Monopoly Drug Store.

Fletcher's Backeye Pile Ointment is on hand for blind, bleeding, protruding piles, indured by physicians, cures the most obstinate ones. Price 50 cents in bottles. Tubes 25 cents. Anti-Monopoly Drug Store.

Utilizing the Art.

"Now, if you will show me where the burglars got into your shop," said the detective. "I will see if I can find a clue."

"In a moment," said the proprietor. "I am working at something a little more important than hunting for a clue just now."

And while the detective waited the merchant wrote as follows at his desk:

"The burglar who broke into Katz's, left a note on the table of the 15th and carried away a silk hat, a pair of French calfskin boots, a fur trimmed overcoat, a black broadcloth suit and two suits of silk underwear was a black hearted villain and scoundrel, but a man whose judgment cannot be called into question. He knew where to go when he wanted the finest clothing the market affords."

"Jacob," he said to the bookkeeper, "send a copy of this to all the papers and tell 'em I want it printed in big black type, to occupy half a column tomorrow morning. Now, Mr. Hawkshaw, I am at your service."—London Answers.

If Banner Salve

Doesn't cure your piles, your money will be returned. It is the most healing medicine. Anti-Monopoly Drug Store.

A Crushed Lawyer.

Some time ago a well known San Francisco attorney, who prides himself upon his handling of Chinese witnesses, was defending a railway damage case. Instead of following the usual questions as to name, residence, if the nature of an oath were understood, etc., he began: "What is your name?" "Kee Lung." "You live in San Francisco?" "Yes." "You sabbie God?" "Mr. Attorney, if you mean 'Do I understand the equity of our Creator? I will simply say that Thursday evening next I shall address the State Ministerial association on the subject of the 'Divinity of Christ' and shall be pleased to have you attend."

Needless to say, a general roar of laughter swept over the courtroom at this clever rally, and it was some minutes much to the discomfort of the lawyer for the defense, before order was restored and the examination proceeded upon ordinary lines.

E. M. Grove
his signature is on every box of the genuine
Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets
a remedy that cures a cold in one day

Foley's Honey and Tar
for children safe, sure. No opiates.

DR. THACHER'S LIVER AND BLOOD SYRUP

FOR LIVER, KIDNEYS and BLOOD. Try it.
25 and 50 cents at your Druggist.

Dosing an Elephant.

A difficult operation was performed the other day at the zoological gardens at Hanover. An elephant was suffering great pain from a growth on the lower part of one of its hind feet, and it was deemed necessary to cut this malformation away. In order to render the animal insensible a dose of 600 grains of morphia in six bottles of rum was administered. This dose took about an hour before any visible effect was produced. The elephant then fell over in a kind of sleep, and the operation was successfully carried out without any further ado. The operation lasted in all three days.—London Globe.

Of three wires of the same thickness one made of gold will sustain 150 pounds, one made of copper 302 pounds, one of iron 549 pounds.

The purest Chinese is spoken at Nankin and is called "the language of the mandarins."

Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold

Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets cure a cold in one day. No cure, no pay. Price 25c.

Clubs of Five.

To be in the club forward us a club of five cash subscribers we will send the Ocala Banner Year Free!

You should know that Foley's Honey and Tar is absolutely the best for all diseases of the throat and lungs. Dealers are authorized to guarantee it to give satisfaction. Anti-Monopoly Drug Store.



"One Is Quick to
Suspect Where
One Has Suffered
Harm Before."

Perhaps there are some business men in this town who have tried advertising and found the results unsatisfactory.

If so, something was the trouble. Contracting for space in a newspaper is not enough. When secured the space must be used to advantage. A convincing story should be told. A plant will not grow unless it is tended. An impression cannot be made upon the purchasing public except by careful, persistent work.

Many merchants are grievously in believing that time spent upon their ads is time wasted. No time can be made more profitable.

We believe the advertising columns of this paper can be used profitably by any one who seeks to reach the buyers of this community. We will gladly aid any one who desires to try it or who is trying it and is not satisfied.

FANCY GOODS.

China, Glassware,
Toys, Dolls,

and all kinds of Holiday Goods at the store of

G. A. NASH.

His
Shoe, Dry Goods
AND Notions Stock

is full and complete. Prices the lowest. A call and examination of our stock will never be regretted.

POLITE ATTENTION ASSURED.

Don't forget **G. A. NASH,**
South Side of Square.

WHISKIES

WINES

STRAUSS & CO.

Whiskies at Wholesale Prices

Are desirous of announcing to you that they have added an entirely new line of Whiskies to their trade at the

—MONTEZUMA EXCHANGE—

Strauss' 76, Hunter, Planter, Pullman, Rye, Murray Hill Corn and others too numerous to mention.

Our manager, Mr. Maurice Strauss, is too well known in this city and county to require an introduction. Call on him—he will treat you in a genteel, business-like manner. We want your trade and by getting our prices before purchasing, we are sure you will give it to us. Respectfully,

STRAUSS & CO.
Montezuma Exchange.

BEERS

CIGARS

THE NEW YEAR

With us brings New Buggies, New Harness and Saddles, New Styles, New Shapes, New Makes. The most complete line we have ever shown. COME TO SEE US.

S. A. STANDLEY, Ocala, Florida.

The Montezuma Hotel,
OCALA, FLORIDA.

J. P. Calloway, Prop.

E. R. Abbott, Jr., Mgr.

RATES \$2.00 PER DAY

OPEN THE YEAR ROUND

Under Entire New Management. Refitted and Refurnished. New Bath Rooms. Best Table Service.

A THOROUGHLY MODERN UP-TO-DATE HOTEL

A. E. DELOUEST
HARDWARE

Sash and Doors,
Farming Tools,

READY MIXED PAINTS, ETC